

Washington, D.C. – U.S. Rep. Tom Rooney (FL-16) issued the following statement after the Supreme Court announced it would hear challenges to the constitutionality of President Obama's health care law:

"I firmly believe that the requirement to purchase health insurance exceeds Congressional power under the Constitution," said Rooney, a former constitutional law professor at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point. "A ruling from the Supreme Court cannot come soon enough for the millions of Americans who, as a direct result of this law, are facing higher health care costs, losing the health insurance plans they like, and having their constitutional rights trampled."

Rooney again called on Congress to repeal that health care law and replace it with legislation that will actually reduce health care costs and expand access to affordable, quality care.

"Health care reform doesn't have to throw the Constitution out the window and force unreasonable, costly mandates on individuals and small business owners," Rooney said. "We need patient-centered reforms to bring down costs, like instituting medical liability reform and allowing small businesses and families to pool across state lines. We must make sure that every American, particularly those with preexisting conditions, has access to quality, affordable health insurance."